

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2246 - SB 2177

February 22, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Extends eligibility for tuition reimbursement provided to members of the Tennessee National Guard under the STRONG Act of 2017 to include vocational and technical programs from a college of applied technology and certain graduate degree programs. Sets forth limitations and conditions on eligibility for the tuition reimbursement. Expands the definition of tuition to include all mandatory fees.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$100,000/FY20-21/STRONG Act

Other Fiscal Impact – According to the Department of Military, approximately \$6,515,800 of the initial appropriation for the STRONG Act has not yet been expended.

Assumptions:

- Tuition reimbursements under the STRONG act are expended from a dedicated fund created in FY17-18 with an initial appropriation of \$8,959,000.
- According to the Department of Military, \$2,443,177 of that fund has been expended to date. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-4-1008, STRONG Act is repealed on June 30, 2021, unless reenacted or extended by the General Assembly prior to that date.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Military, it is estimated that the proposed legislation will result in an increase in state expenditures of approximately \$100,000 in FY20-21. Such increase in expenditures will be absorbed within the existing resources.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jpi